

Eyrescroft Pre-School and Out of School Club

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number Inspection date Inspector	EY361299 17/09/2008 Dr Anna Coyle
Setting address	c/o Eyrescroft School, Eyrescroft, Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 8EZ
Telephone number Email	01733 332 494
Type of setting	Childcare on non-domestic premises

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Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the setting

Eyrescroft Pre-School and Out of School Club is managed by the Pre-school Learning Alliance and operates from a mobile classroom situated within the grounds of Eyrescroft Primary School. It serves the local area and is registered to admit a maximum of 53 children at any one time. The pre-school is open Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 15.00. An out of school club is open from 15.00 to 18.00 during term time, and a play scheme operates from 08.30 to 17.30 for most of the school holidays. All children have access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. There are currently 69 children on roll in the early years age group, of whom 49 receive funding for early years education. The out of school club currently caters for 26 children aged between five and 11 years. The setting supports children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. It has links with the local primary school, and is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. It employs 12 members of staff who hold appropriate qualifications and receives support from the Pre-school Learning Alliance.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The adults at Eyrescroft Pre-School and Out of School Club provide a safe and secure environment for the children so that they settle quickly and happily. Staff know and care for the children well and have a good understanding of their individual needs because they work closely with parents and keep careful records of children's progress. More effective ways of sharing these records with parents are being developed. Good support for individuals with learning difficulties ensures that this is an inclusive setting in which all children thrive and make good progress from their starting points. The good links with the primary school ensure that the youngest children transfer readily to the next stage of their education and the oldest children benefit from well-organised out of school care. Adults are committed to developing their skills to help improve the provision and have successfully tackled the issues from their previous inspection.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

• extend the communication with parents to include more information about their children's progress.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The children are kept safe and secure because all the required policies and procedures are in place and are known by all staff. Suitable checks are made on all who work with the children and the arrangements for ensuring health and safety are well established. Staff make sure that all children, whatever their background or ability, participate in all of the activities and they effectively support children who need extra help. Improvements to the systems for supervising children and collecting them for after-school care have ensured that the recommendations of the previous inspection have been addressed. Links with parents are good. Staff have developed the procedures for communicating with parents and carers, although they are still continuing to improve ways of sharing information with parents about their children's progress.

Managers are keen to develop and improve their own practice and that of their colleagues. They work together well and support each other effectively. This good team work bodes well for carrying out the recommendation of this inspection. Children attending the out of school club benefit from close links with Eyrescroft Primary School. The good liaison between the pre-school staff and the reception class teachers also benefits children's learning and helps them get used to the idea of going to school when they are older.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Staff provide a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities so that the children in the pre-school and out of school club can have lots of experiences to help them learn about the world around them. All aspects of the early years framework are covered and there is a good balance of organised activities and free play so that children make good progress in their learning and development. They take great delight in using paints, pencils and chalk to make marks on paper and other surfaces. The adults place a strong focus on developing children's personal and social skills which pays off in children's willingness to help others and put out play equipment. Children get on well together and play harmoniously. For example, they share toys happily and eagerly join together to clear away during 'tidy-up time'. Parents say their children enjoy attending, and they are very pleased with the way the adults care for them. A strong sense of teamwork amongst staff means that the children benefit from the adults' commitment to do the best for them and keep them safe. A good range of resources is provided and staff make sure that the children use them sensibly. As a result, children settle into the environment very quickly and begin to enjoy new experiences with great interest.

All adults act as a 'key person' to provide close guidance to individual children which helps them to feel unique and valued. Good systems for checking on children's progress means that the staff are able to give additional support where needed. They keep careful records of how well children are doing in relation to the six areas of learning and development, and use them effectively to help them plan suitable daily activities. The information is built up effectively into records of achievement which are then passed on to the parents for them to give to the primary school when they first start in the reception classes.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality Good: this aspect of the provision is strong Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous	Good
improvement.	

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Good
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Good
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Good
How well are children safeguarded?	Good

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Good
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Good
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Good
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Good
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Good
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Good
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Good

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.